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November 15, 1966

Mr. Albert M. Teplin
Union Forum Committee
Wisconsin Memorial Union
770 Langdon St.,
Madison, Wisc. 53706

Dear Mr. Teplin,

Glad you like December 12th, for it fits in nicely with something that developed yesterday. We can figure for the entire day of the 12th and possibly some of the 11th., which is a Sunday.

WBBM wants me to debate either (perhaps both) Merriman Smith and Wesley Liebeler. I accepted in person if it can coincide with my trip to Madison. They seem to favor the 13th for this. Fortunately, I had just read your letter of the 9th. when they phoned. I doubt if either will do this. I especially doubt if Smith does if he every talks to anyone who knows what he was talking about or goes back and reads his own Pulitzer-Prize writing. In the event neither shows, I presume WBBM will want me to speak anyway. I had already challenged each of these gentlemen to debate, with no response from one and no time for response from the other.

Your reference to informality please me, for I find this is such a vast subject it is usually more satisfactory all around if I can address what interests the audience most.

As soon as I hear from WBBM I'll be in touch with you again, after I check the air-line schedules. I mention the possibility of doing something the 11th because I'd probably have to leave in time to get to Madison early enough to make this possible. Thus perhaps we can accomodate so ex students whose weekday schedules might preclude attendance.

I have for the past several months turned down all speaking engagements other than those to which I agreed during the summer when approached by students. This was to make possible the completion of my sequel. Hence I have fixed no honorarium. In those few cases, mostly within easy drive of here, I have told those inviting me to treat me as they have others. I ask no more of you. My expenses will be the actual ones. It is about a 100-mile round trip to the airport. I do not know what they charge for parking the car. I do not know what the plane fare is (you can learn it more easily - cheapest rate and class). The accomodations you provide can be quite simple.

Sincerely yours,

Harold Weisberg